



1997-04 C5 Corvette 3" 304SS Axle-Back Exhaust System 70401343-RHKR (w/ mufflers) & 70401344-RHKR (w/o mufflers)



Installation Instructions

Thank you for making HOOKER HEADERS your choice in a high-performance exhaust system. Extensive dyno/track testing has enabled HOOKER to offer the most advanced design in exhaust systems. The installation, while not complex, will take a certain amount of time. However, the additional horsepower and improved performance will more than justify your efforts. Proper installation and maintenance will ensure long life and maximum performance from your HOOKER BLACKHEART exhaust system.

BEFORE STARTING:

Your vehicle must be raised a minimum of 18 inches. A floor hoist is ideal. If no hoist is available, we strongly urge the use of axle stands as a safety measure. **Please read and understand these instructions and disclaimer in their entirety before attempting installation.**

CAUTION! WORK ONLY ON A LEVEL SURFACE. USE JACKS /JACK STANDS OF SUFFICIENT CAPACITY TO LIFT AND SUPPORT YOUR VEHICLE. NEVER WORK UNDER A VEHICLE SUPPORTED BY A FLOOR OR BUMPER JACK.

INCLUDED HARDWARE:

Accessory Pack Contents:		
P/N	Qty.	Description
556R23	4	3" Band Clamp
199R11313	1	Instruction Sheet
505R57	4	5mm x 14mm Bolts
546R12	4	5mm Lock Washer
539R23	4	5mm Nut
505R88	4	M10 Allen Bolt
508R31	2	Gasket
599R94	2	Blackheart Decal
517R71	1	Hooker Logo Plate

Parts List:	
Qty.	Description
1	Left Over-Axle Pipe
1	Right Over-Axle Pipe
1	Left Muffler or Muffler Delete Assembly
1	Right Muffler or Muffler Delete Assembly
*	70401343 -RHKR ONLY
1	* Left Link Pipe
1	* Right Link Pipe

Tools Needed:
Spray Lube (WD 40®)
3/8 Drive Metric Socket Set
12" 3/8 Drive Extension
15mm Deep Socket
15mm Wrench
18mm Socket
3/8 Drive Universal
8mm Box Wrench
8mm Allen Wrench

INSTALLATION:

IMPORTANT: Inspect your accessory pack: BEFORE YOU START!

1. Place the vehicle on a flat surface, set the parking brake, and block the front wheels.
2. **Disconnect the negative terminal of the battery.**

3. Lift the vehicle and support with jack stands.

WARNING! Never support a vehicle with a floor or bumper jack.

REMOVING THE OEM EXHAUST:

1. Spray the muffler isolators and muffler flange bolts with WD-40® or equivalent.
2. Remove the (x2) nuts and (x2) bolts from the rear sway bar center mounting bushings. Do not remove the lower control arm bolt. Allow the sway bar assembly to swing down and away from the exhaust pipes (**Figure 1**).

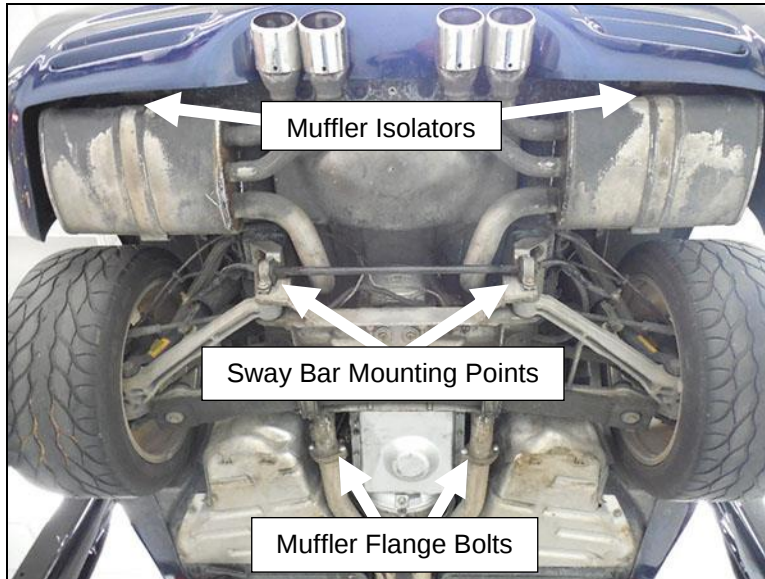


Figure 1

3. Remove the (x4) muffler flange bolts (**Figure 1**).
4. Support each muffler assembly, Remove the (x2) 13mm nuts at each muffler isolator (**Figure 1**). Remove the OE muffler assemblies.

INSTALLATION OF YOUR HOOKER BLACKHEART AXLE-BACK EXHAUST:

1. Inspect the exhaust hanger isolators and any OEM hardware to be reused. Replace, if necessary.
2. Install the sway bar.
3. Install the left and right over-axle pipes from the front side of the rear sub-frame over the axle and towards the rear of the car.
4. Install the supplied gasket between the flanges of the over-axle pipe and the O.E H-pipe. Install the supplied 10mm Allen bolts. Tighten the bolts using an 8mm Allen wrench.

NOTE: Installation Step 5 applies to P/N 70401343-RHCR Only – P/N 70401344-RHCR skip to step #6

5. Install a supplied 3" band clamp over the expanded end of the left and right link pipes (marked **L – R**). Install the link pipes on to the over-axle pipes and tighten the clamp to allow for adjustment (**Figure 2**).
6. Install a supplied 3" band clamp over the expanded end of each muffler or muffler delete pipe. Install the muffler isolator on to the hanger bracket and install the muffler or muffler delete assemblies. Install the (x2) 13mm nuts at the isolators and tighten. Tighten the band clamps to allow for adjustment.
7. Install the Hooker logo bracket between the tailpipes and install the 5mm hardware and tighten to allow for adjustments. Make the necessary adjustments to align the tips and muffler assemblies. Tighten the logo plate hardware followed by the band clamps (**Figures 2 & 3**).
8. Recheck all hardware and clearance around exhaust pipes. Make any adjustments as necessary.
9. Remove the jack stands and lower the car. Connect the battery and remove the wheel blocks.
10. Start the vehicle and check for leaks and loose hardware.

11. Check all hardware again after the first 150 miles of driving.

Enjoy your Blackheart Exhaust!



Figure 2 – 70401343-RHKR



Figure 3 – 70401344-RHKR